

Inquisitives



REPENTANCE

Bible Study Series for Sanctuary Choir & Music Team
Leaders Handbook



REPENTANCE

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The Definition of Repentance

Remorse precedes true repentance. Changed behavior follows true repentance. But this necessary prelude and postlude of true repentance are not themselves the essence of repentance. True repentance is a denial that anything in us ever would or ever could satisfy God's holiness or compel His pardon. We humbly concede that we can offer nothing for what He alone can give. Then we rest in His promise to forgive those who humbly seek Him... Repentance, therefore, is fundamentally a humble expression of a desire for a renewed relationship with God – a relationship that we confess can be secured only by His grace. – *Bryan Chapell*

[Repentance] is not a merely intellectual change of mind or mere grief, still less doing penance, but a radical transformation of the entire person, a fundamental turnaround involving mind and action and including overtones of grief, which result in (spiritual) fruit.- *D.A. Carson*

Repentance is repeatedly tapping into the blessings of being united to Christ.- *David Osborne*

What TRUE REPENTANCE is?

1. Being Sorry to God for your Sin

True repentance is a sorrow not just towards one's self, or towards another person, but first and foremost it is true sorrow towards God. Ps 51:1-4, Ps 38:8

2. Being Truthful About Your Sin Ps 32:5, 1 John 1:9

3. Turning Away From Your Sin – Prov. 28:13

4. Hating Sin – Heb. 1:9

5. When possible, Paying Back To Others What You Owe-

Luke 19:8, Lev. 6:1-7

What repentance Involves

1. Turning Away From **Sin**- Gal. 5:19-21, Eph 5:5

2. Turning Away From the **World**- 1 Jn 2:15, James 4:4

3. Turning Away From **Yourself**- Luke 14:26

4. Turning Away From the **Devil** – Acts 26:18, Col 1:13

5. Turning to **God**- Zech 1:3

6. Turning to **Right-Living**- Rom 6:13

What REPENTANCE is NOT?

1. Not Just Feeling **Guilty**

Feeling guilty about our sin comes before repentance, but is not repentance itself. No one repents unless they first feel guilty about their sin, but not all who feel guilty actually repent. Acts 24:25

2. Not Just Being **Sorry** for Your Sin

Some people are very sorry because of the consequences of their sin, or because they have been caught. Many people are sorry, not for what they have done wrong, but for the penalty they receive in being caught. 2 Cor. 7:10

3. Not Just Trying to Be a **Good** Person

Many people try in their own strength to become a better person and change their way of life. Any self-effort has a root of self-righteousness in it, which does not acknowledge the need of repentance from sin. Isa 64:6

4. Not Becoming **Religious**

The Pharisees in the Bible were extremely religious in behavior and practice. They fasted and prayed and had many religious ceremonies, yet never repented. Matt. 23:2-10

5. Not Just **Knowing** the Truth

Having an intellectual head-knowledge of truth does not necessarily guarantee that the truth has become a living reality in one's life. Believing with the head and believing with the heart are different Rom.10:10; Jas 2:19,20

[Repentance is] a threefold action. In the understanding it means knowledge of sin; in the feelings it means pain and grief; and in the will it means a change of mind- *Eric Sauer*

True repentance is no light matter. It is a thorough change of heart about sin, a change showing itself in godly sorrow and humiliation – in heartfelt confession before the throne of grace – in a complete breaking off from sinful habits, and an abiding hatred of all sin. Such repentance is the inseparable companion of saving faith in Christ- *J.C. Ryle*

To forsake sin, is to leave it without any thought reserved of returning to it again.- *William Gurnall*

Repentance is a change that takes place in one's life as a result of the Holy Spirit's work to illumine one's consciousness to the state of sin in the presence of a Holy God.-

WORD ORIGIN

In the Hebrew of the Old Covenant two words are used in the concept of repentance, they are -

1. NAHUM - to lament, to grieve. This word is describing the emotions that are aroused when motivated to take a different course of action.

2. SHUB - This word expresses a radical change of mind toward sin and implies a conscious moral separation from sin and a decision to forsake it and agree with God.

In the Greek of the New Covenant, there are also two words used which parallel the Hebrew usage.

1. METAMELOMAI - to have feeling or care, concern or regret which is akin to remorse.

2. METANOEO - to have another mind, which describes that radical change whereby a sinner turns from the idols of sin and of self to God.

Repentance then is the informing and changing of the MIND stirring and directing the EMOTIONS to urge the required change, and the action of the yielded WILL in turning away from sin and to God

IMPORTANCE OF REPENTANCE

1. **GOD COMMANDS IT** "God now commands all men everywhere to repent" Acts 17:30 He said that He has 'winked' at our previous ignorance - He has turned a blind eye to it, but now there is no excuse. Paul reasons that the creation itself leaves man without excuse as to the reality of God and His nature. Romans 1: 19-21

2. **IT IS NECESSARY FOR SALVATION**, Y'shua said, "Except you repent you shall all likewise perish " (Luke 13:3). There is no qualification - it means ALL. It is the God-appointed way of salvation - "for godly sorrow works repentance unto salvation" 2 Corinthians 7:10

3. **THE REASON FOR MESSIAH'S COMING** "You shall call his name Y'shua for he shall save his people from their sins" Matthew 1:21

He Himself said, "I am come to seek and to save that which was lost" Luke 19:10 "I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" Luke 5:32 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" Matthew 4:17 John the Baptist preached the same message Matthew 3: 2 & Isaiah 40: 3

4. **THE COMMISSION OF HIS PEOPLE** It was the original commission of the descendants of Abraham which is now conferred also upon all believers in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Speaking to Israel, "And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" on the condition that they kept His covenant and obeyed His laws (Exodus 19: 5). And again, You also as living stones are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood.." - a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation" 1 Peter 2: 5,9 "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations" Luke 24:47

"Repent and be baptized" - the execution of the commission by the apostles Acts 2:38

"This gospel of the kingdom (i.e. repentance and remission of sins) should be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, " Matthew 24:14

THE NEED FOR REPENTANCE

A repentance - a turning away from sin and to God is necessary, because God's law says "the soul that sins, it shall die" Ezekiel 18: 4,20 (Adam initially broke the law Genesis 2:16-17)

DEATH in all its aspects is now upon Adam's race - Romans 5:12 As by one man sin entered in, death passed unto all men

14-21 Death reigned. and through that state of spiritual death sin reigned, until **GRACE** to repent was extended through the Messiah.

Romans 6:23 The wages/penalty of sin is **SPIRITUAL AND ETERNAL** (as well as ultimate physical death). See Romans 2: 6-12

The true meaning of 'death' as it is used in the scripture is in a spiritual sense as a state of separation from God.

Adam **BROKE** his communion/fellowship with God when he disobeyed His commandment. As a result he was severed from his life source in God, the spiritual life which had energized his being. Devoid of the real essence of life that he had known, he was thereafter a relatively empty shell. This state is called spiritual death. Mankind today without Messiah, functions like a spiritual zombie by comparison with what he was created to be. Even spiritually quickened 'man' has only a small portion, a deposit, of his originally endowed spiritual capacity.

Man without God is going his own way, setting his own standards and making his own choices, "all we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned each one to his own way" Isaiah 53: 6a

for "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." Proverbs 14:12

But He laid upon Him, the Lamb of God, the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:6b), to atone for our sin and make reconciliation, to restore us to life! BUT, we must turn back from going our own way, to go His way.